

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01

ADP-00 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-10 SS-15 EB-11 EA-11 OMB-01

RSR-01 /131 W

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R 101705 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7502

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 BRUSSELS 2597

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BE

SUBJ: BELGIAN COMMENTS ON KISSINGER SPEECH

REF: BRUSSELS 2399, 2446 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE, SECONDED BY CABINET
CHIEF NOTERDAEME AND DIRGEN DAVIGNON, GAVE ME HIS VIEWS ON
DR. KISSINGER' S ADDRESS AT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS LUNCHEON.

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HIS REMARKS, SOMEWHAT DESULTORY, FOCUSED UPON THE LINKAGE OF QTE THE POLITICAL, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ISSUES IN ATLANTIC RELATIONS UNQTE; JAPAN' S SHARE IN QTE A NEW RELATIONSHIP UNQTE; THE QTE REGIONAL PERSONALITY UNQTE OF EC, THE SEPARATE-NESS OF ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND THE EC; AND THE ALLEGED IMPLI-CATIONS OF DR. KISSINGER' S SPEECH FOR THE THIRD WORLD. IN FACT, VAN ELSLANDE' S OBSERVATIONS SUPPLIED NOT SO MUCH A CRITIQUE OF DR. KISSINGER' S STATEMENT AS A SUGGESTION FOR A U. S. DIALOGUE WITH THE NINE AS COMMUNITY RATHER THAN EXCLUSIVE RELIANCE ON THE NATO FORUM. AT SEVERAL TURNS IN THE CONVERSATION DAVIGNON INTERVENED AT CONSIDERABLE LENGTH. I AM LEFT WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THE INSPIRATION OF THE CRITIQUE AND THE SUGGESTION IS HIS RATHER THAN MR. VAN ELSLANDE' S. END SUMMARY.

2. MR. VAN ELSLANDE OPENED THE CONVERSATION BY ASKING RHETORI-CALLY WHETHER DR. KISSINGER' S SPEECH SHOULD BE TAKEN AS A TRIAL BALLOON OR AN INVITATION TO THE DANCE. I SAID THAT, THOUGH METAPHORS ARE SLIPPERY, I WOULD CONSIDER THAT QTE INVITATION TO THE DANCE UNQTE CAME CLOSER TO DR. KISSINGER' S INTENTIONS. WE HOPED THAT OUR EUROPEAN FRIENDS WOULD POOL THEIR IDEAS WITH OURS AND THAT OUR GOALS FOR THE FUTURE WOULD ISSUE FROM A MEETING OF MINDS, AND THAT, INDEED, DR. KISSINGER' S STATEMENT WAS AN INVITATION TO CREATIVE COLLABORATION FOR THIS PURPOSE. MR. VAN ELSLANDE SAID THAT HE WAS PERPLEXED BY THE TRIPOD-- U. S., EUROPE, AND JAPAN-- ADUMBRATED BY DR. KISSINGER. I SAID THAT THE REMARKABLE ENERGIES AND PRODUCTIVITY OF JAPAN SURELY NEEDED TO BE INCLUDED IN ANY CONSIDERATION OF WORLD TRADE AND WORLD POLITICS, AND THAT THE POLITICAL FUTURE OF JAPAN WAS MOST CERTAINLY OF CRUCIAL CONCERN TO DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES EVERYWHERE. VAN ELSLANDE SAID THAT HE ACCEPTED THE LINKAGE OF POLITICAL, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ISSUES, BUT THAT HE DOUBTED THEY COULD BE APPROACHED IN A QTE GLOBAL UNQTE FASHION. AS HE SAW IT, THEY NEEDED TO BE DEALT WITH BY THE APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONS, I. E., GATT, OECD, NATO, AND, AS REGARDS THE ECONOMIC ISSUES THAT HAVE ARISEN BETWEEN THE U. S. AND EUROPE, BY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES OF THE EC.

3. AT THIS POINT DAVIGNON QUESTIONED THE PURPOSE OF AN ATLANTIC CHARTER. IF SUCH A CHARTER WERE TO AIM AT A QTE GLOBAL UNQTE ACCORD ON OUTSTANDING POLITICAL, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ISSUES,
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HE COULD NOT SEE HOW SUCH AN AGREEMENT COULD BE ACHIEVED PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENT' S EXPECTED VISIT TO EUROPE. IF, HOWEVER, A NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER WERE TO BE CONFINED TO A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES-- SUCH AS THE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES ISSUED AT MOSCOW BY THE PRESIDENT AND BREZHNE
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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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4. VAN ELSLANDE, PICKING UP THE BROKEN THREAD, OBSERVED THAT DR. KISSINGER' S STATEMENT COULD BE INTERPRETED AS AN INVITATION TO THE RICH NATIONS TO GET TOGETHER, AND THAT THE FORMATION OF A RICH MAN' S CLUB WOULD BE VIEWED WITH DISTASTE AND SUSPICION BY THE THIRD WORLD. I SAID THAT I COULD NOT FIND ANYTHING IN DR. KISSINGER' S STATEMENT THAT COULD LEND ITSELF TO SUCH AN INDIVIOUS INTERPRETATION. TO THE CONTRARY, DR. KISSINGER HAD STATED THAT THE QTE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY CANNOT BE AN EXCLUSIVE CLUB UNQTE. I ADDED THAT

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HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL NATIONS WERE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHOSE FORTUNES WERE BOUND UP WITH THE EXPANSION OF WORLD

TRADE AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STABILITY.

COMMENT: IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT VAN ELSLANDE AND DAVIGNON DID NOT TOUCH UPON THOSE PASSAGES OF DR. KISSINGER' S SPEECH THAT DEALT WITH DEFENSE, AND THAT THEY DID NOT OFFER ANY POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS BEYOND THE US/ EC DIALOGUE. I WAS STRUCK BY THE SKEPTICISM, NOT TO SAY NEGATIVISM, OF VAN ELSLANDE' S DIGRESSIONS ON DR. KISSINGER' S STATEMENT. HAVING READ COMMUNICATIONS EMANATING FROM PARIS, I DISCERN A DEFERENTIAL CONCERN OF BELGIANS WITH THE FRENCH REACTION TO THE KISSINGER SPEECH. BRUSSELS IS WAITING FOR THE COMING OF POMPIDOU TO REYKJAVIK. CERTAINLY, VAN ELSLANDE AND DAVIGNON' S COMMENTS ARE LESS POSITIVE THAN THOS OF M. HARMEL (SEE REFTELS). STRAUSZ- HUPE

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TAGS: PFOR, BE
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ATHENS
BONN
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EUR
LISBON
LONDON

LUXEMBOURG
SECSTATE WASHDC

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